IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 11-24.

Amend claims 5-7, 10, 25, and 27-29.

1. (original) A method of modifying one or more characteristics of a plant comprising introducing into the plant a combination of sequences, each sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity, or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto, or an effective part thereof, each sequence being operably linked to a promoter so as to affect the expression of corresponding endogenous genes in the plant.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of sequences is introduced into the plant substantially simultaneously.

3. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the combination of sequences is introduced into the plant on a single nucleic acid construct.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a first sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto, is introduced into a plurality of plants and one or more of the plurality of plants are selected for introduction of a second sequence comprising a second gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, effective in modifying one or more properties of starch produced by the plant.

6. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the introduced sequences are operably linked, directly or indirectly, in an antisense orientation to a promoter.

7. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the introduced sequences comprise a gene encoding potato starch synthase II (SSII) enzyme and a gene encoding potato starch synthase III (SSIII) enzyme or sequences functionally equivalent thereto.

8. (currently amended) A plant modified by the method of any claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, or the progeny of or part of such a plant.

9. (original) A plant according to claim 8, wherein the plant is selected from potato, cassava, maize, wheat, barley, tomato, rice and pea.

10. (currently amended) A method of preparing a food product comprising using ~~Use of~~ a plant or part thereof according to claim 8 ~~or 9, in the preparation of a food product~~.

11. Currently cancelled.

12. Currently cancelled.

13. Currently cancelled.

14. Currently cancelled.

15. Currently cancelled.

16. Currently cancelled.

17. Currently cancelled.

18. Currently cancelled.

19. Currently cancelled.

20. Currently cancelled.

21. Currently cancelled.

22. Currently cancelled.

23. Currently cancelled.

24. Currently cancelled.

25. (currently amended) A method of producing starch comprising modifying a plant according to the method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 and extracting starch from the plant.

26. (original) A nucleic acid construct comprising a combination of sequences, each sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity, or a functionally equivalent sequence thereof or an effective part thereof, each sequence being operably linked to a promoter.

27. (currently amended) A nucleic acid construct according to claim 26, suitable for performing a method in accordance with claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-7~~.

28. (currently amended) A plant comprising a construct according to claim 26 ~~or 27~~, or the progeny of or part of such a plant.

29. (currently amended) A plant comprising starch which, when extracted from the plant, ~~is in accordance with any one of claims 12-23~~ has a viscosity onset

temperature as judged by viscoamylograph of a 10% w/w aqueous suspension at atmospheric pressure using a Newport Scientific Rapid Visco Analyser reduced by at least 12°C compared to starch extracted from equivalent, unmodified plants.